

WILSON'S MEMORY BAD, REED AVERS

Asserts He Would Not Tame-ly Submit to a Gross Insult.

Asserting that former President Wilson's recollection in regard to a letter written to Senator Reed in 1913, regarding the Missouri senator's stand on the federal reserve system bill was "sadly deficient," in a formal statement issued yesterday afternoon, Senator Reed of Missouri, democrat said:

"Those who knew the amiable and polite Wilson of 1913 will hardly credit him with having personally insulted a senator representing a great state, however humble that senator may be. Those who know me well will scarcely believe that I would tamely submit to a gross insult, even from so great a man as Mr. Wilson was at that time."

Asserting Me Was Not Insulted.

In the published report of Mr. Reed's statement yesterday afternoon, it was asserted that the senator declared himself to have been "personally insulted" by the former President. As a matter of fact, Mr. Reed was asserting that he had not been insulted by Mr. Wilson.

The controversy between Mr. Wilson and Mr. Reed arose over a letter recently written to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat by the former, denying that he had any recollection of having written to the Missouri senator commending him for his stand on the banking bill.

"Any controversy with former President Wilson under existing circumstances is necessarily painful," continued the senator. "But as much as I regret the necessity, I nevertheless feel that the public is entitled to know the truth, and the whole truth."

Senator Reed recalled the letter written by Mr. Wilson in 1912 to sustain Mr. Meriwether's contention that the former President had commended him for his legislative service in connection with the federal reserve act. He added that in this respect Mr. Wilson's "recollection is sadly deficient."

Helped to Make Changes.

"Mr. Wilson states that I opposed every possible objection to the completion and adoption of the banking and currency bill," Senator Reed continued. "The fact is the principal dispute between the President and myself regarding that bill arose over the question whether the financial and business interests of the country should be given the privilege of coming before the Senate banking committee and express their views regarding the pending legislation. At this time the national banks were almost in revolt. Many of them were

MAY DROP CIVIL SERVICE.

Commerce Department Change Said to Be Considered.

The Commerce Department was said today to be considering removal of the offices of the shipping commissioners of the bureau of navigation from the operation of the civil service regulations to enable the employment of the highest grade men in these positions.

Such a step, it was said, would involve an executive order by President Harding, but it was understood that the department had not yet determined whether recommendations should be made to Secretary Hoover for a request to the President to take the action.

Nearly a year ago several shipping commissioners were removed from office for the clearance of vessels from port, which would, as far as possible, eliminate the possibility of irregularity in their personnel.

Preparing to surrender their charters, I insisted upon hearings. "As a result, in the bill as it finally passed the Senate only 633 lines of the original 2,000 remained intact and unchanged."

"I helped to make these changes. And when the bill came before the Senate I defended it upon the floor. After the bill had been thus amended President Wilson pronounced it the best piece of legislation adopted in fifty years. The democratic campaign book of 1920 declares that the bill was opposed by the republicans and refers to it as being 'revised and strengthened in the Senate committee on banking and currency.'"

"Mr. Wilson declares that he told me that I reminded him of an individual who mounted several horses and rode off in every direction. Again the former President's recollection is in error. Just as he has completely forgotten a letter which he did write, he remembers a conversation which never took place."

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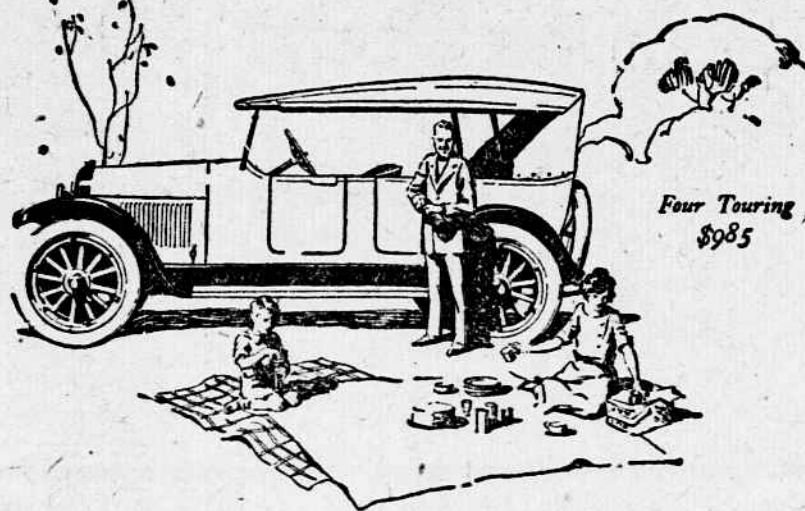
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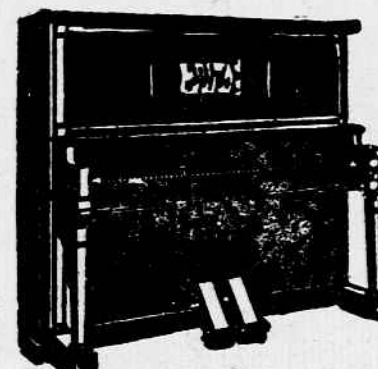
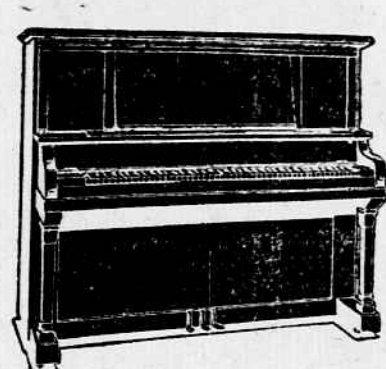
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